Dr. E. S. R. Menon—Grade of pay.

102 Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what was Dr. E.S. R. Menon's pay when he was first entertained;

(b) what is his present pay and in what grade;

(c) is there any idea of increasing his pay or grade;

(d) in the light of the importance of his office, do the Government contemplate raising him to the rank of a first class officer of the State ?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar:— (a) Rs. 200 in the grade of Rs. 200—400.

(b) Rs. 530 in the grade of Rs. 450—650.

(c) Yes; his pay has since been increased.

(d) No, such contemplation.

Arecanut trade of the northern Talu's of the State—monopoly by Mr. Ahmedkutty of Ottupara.

103. Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Are the Government aware that in the northern taluks of the State there is a wide-spread and deep discontent on account of the so-called monopoly of arecanut trade now enjoyed solely by Mr. Ahmedkutty of Ottupara;

(2) have the Government received reports of public meetings or petitions protesting against the arecanut monopoly granted to Mr. Ahmedkutty of Ottupara; if so, from what all places and persons;

(3) do the Government intend to make any alterations in or cancellation of the monopoly now granted to the owner of the Ottupara market ?

Dr. E. S. R. Menon— (1) No monopoly of arecanut trade is granted to any in the State by the Government. Mr. Ahmedkutty is only conducting an arecanut market at Ottupara on all Wednesdays strictly in accordance with the rules now in force.

(2) Yes.

a. Mr. K. Sankaran Nayar, Pudusseri.

b. „ Kapraseri P. Ittinikanda Kaimal of Keechery.

c. Rev. Fr. Francis Neelankavil, Vicar, R. C. Church, Vadoor.

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